

FREMONT BOARD OF SELECTMEN**15 MAY 2008****APPROVED 05/22/2008**

At 6:10 pm the Board's meeting was called to order in the basement meeting room of the Town Hall. Present were Selectmen Gene Cordes and Donald Gates Jr; Road Agent Guerwood Holmes; and Town Administrator Heidi Carlson.

Selectmen met with Guerwood Holmes to follow-up the work on North Road, review the engineering proposals, and discuss highway department matters.

There were two proposals received for the engineering scope of work for the rock wall on North Road. One from L C Engineering included a subcontracted survey portion and was for a grand total of \$10,000; \$5,800 in engineering and \$4,200 in surveying. The second proposal from Stantec Consulting was for everything combined (engineering and surveying) for \$6,800.

There was discussion about the proposals and scope of work, as well as updates on the current situation. Sue Miller had been in to the Town Hall this morning and indicated there was some further erosion on the site, which Holmes agreed he could look at tomorrow. He also will erect some signage or cones to warn of the low shoulder area.

There was discussion of the oversight of the Selectmen's Office with regard to the Road Agent's position, and Holmes said he believed he was always responsible to the Board.

Holmes mentioned that he has seen a lot more trash on the roads and asked if the Police Department could look out for this, and ticket people for littering. It was also suggested the Town look into a work crew from the jail to do some roadside cleanup. Holmes said if the Highway Department was asked to do some of it, that they would alter their work plan to accommodate that.

Holmes was thanked for his time, and he left the meeting at 6:45 pm.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Selectmen reviewed the minutes for 08 May 2008 and 12 May 2008. One correction was made to May 12th to remove a duplicated sentence. With all in order, motion was made by Gates to approve the minutes of May 8 and May 12, 2008. Cordes seconded and the vote was unanimously approved.

2. Selectmen discussed final Bulky Day preparations. No pick-ups have been requested, and there is good volunteer coverage for most of the day.

3. Selectmen reviewed follow-up information from Town Historian Matthew Thomas on the Barn Discretionary Easement at 245 Beede Hill Road, including his thoughts about historic status of the barn. The Board had completed the evaluation worksheet excepting the Historian's responses to questions #3 and #5. The easement language was reviewed and will be presented to Ms McRae.

4. Selectmen discussed the pending Current Use Application from Conrad Magnusson for parcel 02-070. The Planning Board has not yet closed out this gravel pit, and it has not fully been restored. Further consultation will take place with the Planning Board; and Carlson will draft a letter to Mr Magnusson regarding the status as of April 1.

5. Selectmen reviewed an email from Charles Black regarding a complaint about the Sawyer property. He has scheduled a follow-up appointment next week. The Board indicated that they were going to indicate to Mr Black that this was a legal matter currently.

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6. Selectmen discussed the proposal from last fall for ballfield engineering, for which, \$5,000 had been encumbered when the Board signed the November 2007 contract with Stantec. The work had been pending the spring season, and Jon Benson has indicated that they are ready to proceed. The contract will be forwarded to Stantec.

Carlson advised that an estimate had been received through Tom Rowell for grub control, and fertilizing at the ballfields with The Greenskeeper Inc. The first application will be done this coming Monday and Jon Benson will also be advised of this progress. Benson and Dick Rand are working on the fields already for the season.

Selectmen also discussed a request from the Police Department to have the DHART helicopter land for the DARE Graduation (June 10 or June 13) at the ballfields. The Board indicated that Jon Benson also needed to be contacted. A call was placed to him this evening but he was not available. The Board said so long as it is on the soccer field and there is no danger to fields or the area, that it would be acceptable, and it also needs an OK from Benson.

Brett Hunter came into the meeting at 7:22 pm; as did Chris St Onge. St Onge was looking for the Police Department checks, which were not available at this time, and asked to come back at 9:30 pm. He was advised later in the evening that checks are available on Friday mornings.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Selectmen reviewed the payroll manifest \$19,841.76 and accounts payable manifest \$42,918.46 both dated for 16 May 2008. Motion was made by Gates and seconded by Cordes to approve the payroll manifest of \$19,841.76 and the accounts payable manifest of \$42,918.46. The vote was unanimously approved.

Selectmen reviewed budgets related to town building maintenance and asked questions about how they are budgeted and spent. There is a need for a better system relating to the Safety Complex in that the departments need to provide information about what is needed during the budgeting process.

At 7:29 pm motion was made by Gates and seconded by Cordes to enter non-public session pursuant to NH RSA 91-A 3 II (c) to discuss a matter possibly injurious to the reputation of an individual. The vote was unanimously approved.

At 7:40 pm Selectmen returned to public session on a motion from Cordes and second from Gates. The vote was unanimously approved.

Selectmen discussed having Hunter's interest in stepping forward to the Board, and wanted to be sure he understands the scope of it and the time commitment. He said it was not an issue for him, and that he had been keeping up with the Board's recent work. He felt that he had been around this quite a bit, and many of his curiosities have been answered.

Selectmen said they are looking for stability in the Board and someone who is here for the long haul, and would also consider running again in March. Hunter said that he would be here as long as needed.

It was reviewed that Hunter had been a member of the Fire and EMS services since 1999; had more recently become an officer, and was now Captain of the Rescue/EMS operations. He has served on the Budget Committee for a 3 year term; and has been a member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment for many years, recently named Chairman. Hunter chaired the Study Committee regarding the combining of the Fire Rescue Department. There was discussion about the combination and the current Fire Rescue

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Department. Hunter also said he had run for State Representative, but would be much happier serving a more local position.

There was discussion about his position on the ZBA and that he would need to resign as it is a conflict with being a Selectman.

Selectmen said the Board has a long history of working well together and being here for the long haul. Hunter said he was ready to get on board and could be at a meeting next week.

At 7:50 pm, Gates moved to take a 10 minute recess. Cordes seconded and the vote was approved.

At 8:00 pm the Board meeting returned to order. Gates moved to appoint Brett Hunter as a Member of the Board of Selectmen for the remainder of this election year, to March 2009, to fill the unexpired term of Joe Dreyer. Cordes seconded and the vote was unanimously approved. Selectmen signed the appointment form and Hunter went to the Clerk's Office to be sworn in.

Hunter returned a few minutes later and said he had been sworn in and would return next Thursday night at 6:00 pm.

At 8:00 pm Dave Engel came into the meeting. He said he had written to the Board regarding the Stephen Heselton estate. He indicated the property had been in deplorable condition, was unsaleable until they put some \$50,000 into it, and now are faced with a sales price that will not pay off all the debt for the estate.

He presented a sheet with the gross sales price information and debts owed (not all inclusive); that currently leaves a shortfall of some \$22,000. As Administrator of the estate with Peter LaRoche, Engel asked for the Board to consider some reduction of the interest and/or past due amounts on the property.

Although he indicated that the improvements they have made will increase the property value; the Board asked him to be mindful of the shifting of the tax burden to others in Town which is created when an abatement of such interest, etc, is granted. Gates discussed a moral obligation in this regard that the Board feels, to all taxpayers.

Engel's best guesstimate of the administrative expenses to date is \$5,000; and that there may be another \$5,000 by the time it is all completed. He said that Exeter Health Care is adamant that they want the whole amount owed to them, but that is not a lien on the property.

Engel said he has filed with the Probate Court to be able to sell the house prior to the estate being settled, because it is the only asset to be able to pay off any of the debt. He is looking at a closing scheduled within the next ten days, and everything has to come out of the sale of the house.

The Board discussed at length the amount of monies owed and how the sale works out in terms of dollars and debts cleared.

Carlson was instructed to gather some additional information and get it to Attorney Engel tomorrow.

At 8:45 pm Mr Engel and an assistant left the meeting.

The Board continued to discuss the settlement questions posed by Attorney Engel and the overall effects of the matter. A motion to settle it for \$55,000 so long as the funds are received at the Town Hall by the

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close of business on May 30, 2008 was made by Cordes. This would include a Bank check, and payment by 12 noon when the office closes. Gates seconded and the vote was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

2. Selectmen opened painting bids for various town building projects. This included:

Safety Complex:	Carr Associates	\$700.00
	JR Painters	\$475.00
Public Library:	Carr Associates	\$3,600.00
Town Hall:	Carr Associates	\$500.00
	JR Painters	\$200.00
Olde Meetinghouse:	Carr Associates	\$10,700.00

With consideration of budgeted funds, the Board discussed accepting proposals #116 and 117 from JR Painters with verification of insurance. If the insurance is satisfactory, the Board voted to accept these two proposals as indicated with work to be done by July 1, 2008.

The Library proposal will be forwarded to John Hennelly.

3. Selectmen reviewed the Treasurer's responses for TAN / Letter of Credit bids. This included bids as follows:

Citizen's Bank	2.31%
TD Bank North	2.49%

The Treasurer has recommended Citizen's Bank as the lower interest rate, and the Board concurred. The information will be forwarded to the Bank to get the process underway as the Fremont School District needs their final payment for the 2007-08 school year.

4. Selectmen reviewed the folder of incoming correspondence.

5. The 2008 Camp Fremont enrollment forms are printed and available on the website, CIT positions also being taken. Jen Jaquith is doing interviews for the counselor positions.

6. Memorial Day plans are underway, and Jeanne Nygren has the program together.

7. Selectmen reviewed a contract presented by Meredith Bolduc for the Rockingham Planning Commission Circuit Rider Services. Carlson indicated that the Planning Commission has changed their contract "year" and need for non-appropriation clause as well as supplemental letter to go with it. The Board agreed with these conditions, and did not want to sign the contract until it had been reviewed and approved by the Planning Board.

8. Selectmen reviewed an emailed letter of interest in an appointment to the Exeter River Local Advisory Committee from Patti Gentile. The Board will ask her to come in so they can meet her and be sure she understands the position.

9. Selectmen reviewed the fee schedule posted for a public hearing on June 5, 2008, which primarily includes the Planning Board fees now on the Town's overall schedule and removed from the individual regulations. The Board had no other changes.

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10. Selectmen reviewed and approved the June Newsletter.

11. Selectmen reviewed an OHRV grant application presented by Chief Janvrin. The Board needs to sign it and vote on the customary language. Motion was made by Gates and seconded by Cordes that:

Chief Janvrin is hereby authorized to execute and deliver for in the name and on the behalf of the Town of Fremont, NH, all professional service contracts, agreements and reports with the State of New Hampshire Fire and Game Department for Off Highway Recreational Vehicle law enforcement purported to be binding upon the Town shall be conclusive evidence for all purposes that such instrument is authorized by this vote.

The vote was unanimously approved. Cordes then signed the document, witnessed and notarized by Heidi Carlson.

12. Selectmen reviewed an Intent to Cut for parcel 01-082 owned by Stephen Bassett / Heritage Farm Trust. With all in order, motion was made by Gates and seconded by Cordes to approve this Intent. The vote was unanimously approved.

13. There was discussion about job evaluations and the Board's desire to do them more than once per year; as well as have employees do their own evaluation and feed it back to their Supervisor for input prior to being finalized.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

At 10:00 pm motion was made by Gates and seconded by Cordes to enter non-public session pursuant to NH RSA 91-A 3 II (e) to discuss pending legal matters. The vote was unanimously approved.

At 10:10 pm motion was made by Gates to return to public session. Cordes seconded and the vote was unanimously approved.

The Board announced that they would authorize the completion of a cease and desist order on the Del Pozzo property, and asked for the Building Inspector to bring such matters to the Board prior to sending them to counsel.

NEXT WEEK

The next regular Board meeting will be held on Thursday May 22, 2008 at 6:00 pm. The Barn Discretionary Easement hearing will be held at 7:30 pm.

At 10:15 pm a motion was made by Gates and seconded by Cordes to adjourn the meeting. The vote was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Carlson
Town Administrator